

THE ASSOCIATION OF DONOR RELATIONS PROFESSIONALS FOUNDERS AWARD

is hereby presented to

Nancy Lubich McKinney

ancy Lubich McKinney, Executive Director, Donor and Gift Services at the University of California, Berkeley, we honor you as the 2014 recipient of the Association of Donor Relations Professionals Founders Award, the highest award bestowed by the Association. The Founders Award recognizes individuals who have had a significant and inspiring impact on the donor relations profession and who exemplify specific ideals of dedication to the profession.

ADRP has seen phenomenal transformation since the beginning of your service on the Board of Directors in 2006. In those early days, the board members and other volunteers were responsible for the execution of all of ADRP services. After one term as a director, you took the reins as our third president, and in your six years of service, the organization grew from approximately 400 members primarily located on the East Coast, to a thriving group of over 1,400 professionals worldwide. You knew that this meant our educational offerings and conferences would need to change and grow drastically to meet the needs of our burgeoning membership.

Over the years, the directors laid out a path for this organization that would eventually exceed the capacity of a purely volunteer team. You took that vision and began molding a sustainable framework that would allow us to continue our evolution. With your guidance, our board hired an association management company in 2011 to administer the day-to-day work of ADRP. This alone was a huge step in support of our development. But then you took it one step further. We have now become a staff-supported organization with an officer responsible for our operation. You have diligently guided the association staff through this transition, preserving the essence of who we are. Your efforts have ensured that we have sound business practices, continuity in member service, and a board of directors free to envision the future for ADRP and the field of donor relations and stewardship. More importantly, ADRP has not lost one of its most valuable qualities in this transition—we still retain the personal connections and camaraderie among our members that has defined us from the start.

You have collaborated with more than 45 directors on the board since the beginning of your tenure—45 very different personalities—and you have displayed extraordinary leadership and friendship to all. You have worked tirelessly to ensure the board was effective, efficient, and well represented among our members. Even with your own career to manage, you committed hundreds of hours responding to ADRP members, mentoring directors, and providing educational content. Your guidance is what made the transition to a staff-supported organization, with a true governing board, possible.

Nancy, your leadership has made ADRP the thriving organization that it is today. We are most grateful for your dedication.

With sincere gratitude,